

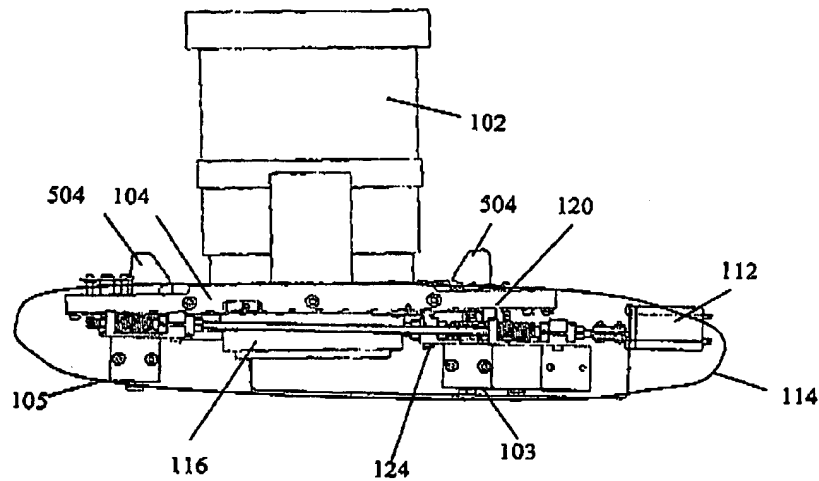
Remarks

The Examiner's reconsideration of the application is urged in view of the amendments above, and comments which follow.

I. Correction of Informalities

A replacement paragraph has been provided incorporating a correction of a typo on page 13 line 23 of the specification. A further typo has been corrected on page 4, for which a replacement paragraph also has been provided.

The Examiner objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), because these would lack indication of "the first and second drive means providing movement of the base plate out of the plane perpendicular to the optical axis". Nevertheless, part of the first and second drive means indicated in Fig. 3, are indicated in more detail in Fig. 4, Fig. 5 and Fig. 6. These detailed drawings show a specific position of the axle of a drive means. The components illustrated allow movement of the base plate out of a plane perpendicular to the optical axis when different specific positions for different axles of the drive means are used (as also described on page 15 lines 26 – 34). By way of illustration, the latter is shown in the following drawing, currently only provided by way of illustration, as the technical components are already indicated in the drawings on file, more particularly in Fig. 3 to Fig. 6.



The first drive means 110 is illustrated in Fig. 1; components of the second drive means 114 as illustrated hereinabove, are also illustrated in Fig. 3 to Fig. 6. Reconsideration is thus urged.

II. Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended so as to clearly distinguish from the application of US Patent 5,659,806 in view of US Patent application 2002/0044264 in terms of non-obviousness (35 U.S.C. §103 (a)).

Claims 2 to 6 have been amended in that reference numerals have been removed from the claims.

Claim 7 has been deleted as the corresponding features have been introduced in independent claim 1.

Claims 8 and 10 to 15 have been amended in that reference numerals have been removed from the claims.

Claims 9 and 16 are unamended.

Claim 1 as formulated now still relates to a lens position adjustment system, but it has been explicitly described that the first and second drive means have means for providing movement of the base plate out of a plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system. Support for these amendments can be found in previous claim 7 and e.g. in the specification on page 5 lines 15 to 17.

III. Anticipation and Non-obviousness

US 5,659,806 (Miyamoto et al.) describes a optical system preventing shaking comprising driving units for moving a lens in x-direction and y-direction (column 4 line 64 to column 5 line 1). The driving forces provided by the driving units are transferred to the base plate through gears, shafts, bearings and connecting members (column 5 lines 1 to 12) for both driving units, thus allowing movement of the base plate in two directions. The connecting members, which may be considered as drive transfer zones, both are fixed to the base plate, each such that movement is allowed in a specific direction. The system described in US 5,659,806 nevertheless is no projection lens adjusting system and does not comprise a means for movement out of the plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system. The reference therefore does not anticipate amended claim 1.

US 2002/0044264 A1 (Lu et al.) describes an optical lens module allowing to adjust a lens position in two directions in a plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system. The system comprises an inside lens holder moveable within a lens frame in a first direction (§0024). The lens frame is moveable within an enclosure of the projector in a second direction (§0025). The two movements are thus not imposed directly on a single base plate, i.e. the drive transfer zones for each of the movements is not located on the base plate. The system described in US 2002/0044264 furthermore does not allow

movement out of the plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system. The references therefore does not anticipate amended claim 1.

Consequently, none of the cited references anticipates amended independent claim 1 of the present patent application. By virtue of their dependency of novel claim 1, dependent claims 2 to 6 and 8 to 16 are not anticipated by the cited prior art references.

With respect to non-obviousness, US 5,659,806 may be considered as closest prior art, as it is functionally close to the system of the present invention, because it provides drive means having drive transfer zones on a base plate allowing driving in two directions perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system. US 5,659,806 nevertheless does not provide means, as part of the drive means, for providing movement out of a plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system. US 5,659,806 furthermore does not hint in the direction of providing such a means. Similarly, none of the cited prior art references hints in the direction of providing such a means for providing movement out of the plane perpendicular to the optical axis of the projection system, incorporated in the driving means.

Nevertheless, the latter is advantageous as it provides additional degrees of freedom for adjusting the lens position, e.g. providing Scheimpflug correction, with an easier assembly.

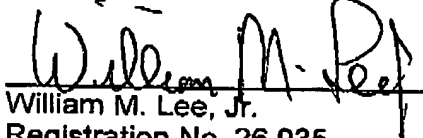
Consequently, claim 1 as currently amended is non-obvious in view of the cited prior art and consequently claims 2 to 6 and 8 to 16 are non-obvious in view of the cited prior art by virtue of their dependency on non-obvious claim 1.

It is acknowledged that the examiner considers the features from claim 4 to 16 allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. This is what has been done by including the feature of claim 7 into former claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that everything is now in order, and the application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner's further and favorable reconsideration in that regard is urged.

June 9, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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